

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A game machine for executing a predetermined game in response to a player's operation, comprising:

display means for displaying a game screen;

operation switches operated by the player;

5 communications means for performing data communications among other game machines;

start timing synchronization means for establishing start-timing synchronization with said other game machines in the game by communications via said communications means;

10 prompt information storage means for storing operation timing data defining an operation timing of said operation switches to be operated by the player;

display control means for having, in response when the game is synchronously started, said display means displayed
15 information about the operation timings of said operation switches to be operated by the player based on said operation timing data;

first operation timing storage means for storing data relating to the operation timings of said operation switches
20 operated by the player responding to the information displayed on said display means;

second operation timing storage means for acquiring and storing the data which is stored in said first operation timing

storage means of said other game machines through communications
25 via said communications means; and

correlation evaluation means for evaluating
correlation in terms of game operation with said other game
machines based on the data stored in said first operation timing
storage means and said second operation timing storage means.

2. The game machine according to claim 1, further
comprising

independent evaluation means for evaluating whether
the timing based on the data stored in said first operation timing
5 storage means is in a predetermined range from the timing based
on said operation timing data.

3. The game machine according to claim 1, wherein
said correlation evaluation means evaluates whether
both the timing based on the data stored in said first operation
timing storage means and the timing based on the data stored in
5 said second operation timing storage means are in a predetermined
range.

4. The game machine according to claim 3, wherein
said correlation evaluation means evaluates, by using,
as a criterial timing, the timing based on either the data stored
in said first operation timing storage means or the data stored

5 in said second operation timing storage means whichever being the operation timing closest to the operation timing defined by said operation timing data at a predetermined timing, from the criterial timing based on one of the data, whether the timing based on the other data is in the predetermined range.

5. The game machine according to claim 1, wherein
said correlation evaluation means evaluates whether
the timing based on either the data stored in said first operation
timing storage means or the data stored in said second operation
5 timing storage means is in a predetermined range from the timing
based on said operation timing data at a predetermined timing,
and whether both the timing based on one of the data and the timing
based on the other data are in the predetermined range.

6. The game machine according to claim 1, wherein
said prompt information storage means stores the
operation timing data defining a plurality of the operation
timings of said operation switches to be operated by the player,
5 evaluation timing setting means is further provided for
setting at least one of the plurality of the operation timings
based on said operation timing data as an evaluation timing, and
said first operation timing storage means stores the
data relating to the operation timing corresponding to said
10 evaluation timing.

7. The game machine according to claim 1, further comprising:

sound generation means for generating a predetermined sound in response to said operation switches whichever operated;

5 and

part selection means for selecting one of a plurality of parts relating to music play, wherein

said prompt information storage means stores the operation timing data defining a plurality of the operation
10 timings of said operation switches to be operated by the player at least for the part selected by said part selection means, and

said display control means has said display means displayed the information about the operation timings of said operation switches relating to at least the part selected by said
15 part selection means out of the information based on said operation timing data.

8. The game machine according to claim 1, wherein said communications means is used for infrared communications,

said first operation timing storage means stores the
5 data relating to the operation timings of said operation switches operated by the player during a predetermined segment of the game,

said second operation timing storage means acquires and stores the data stored in said first operation timing storage

means of said other game machines for each of the predetermined
10 segment of the game, and

said correlation evaluation means evaluates, for each
of the predetermined segment of the game, correlation with said
other game machines in terms of game operation based on the data
stored in said first operation timing storage means and in said
15 second operation timing storage means.

9. The game machine according to claim 3, wherein
said correlation evaluation means differs the number
of points to be added depending on a difference between the timing
based on the data stored in said first operation timing storage
5 means and the timing based on the data stored in said second
operation storage means.

10. The game machine according to claim 5, wherein
said correlation evaluation means differs the number
of points to be added depending on both a difference between the
timing based on said one of data and the timing based on said
5 operation timing data, and a difference between the timing based
on said one of data and the timing based on said other of data.

11. The game machine according to claim 1, wherein
when evaluating that the data stored in said first
operation timing storage means and/or in said second operation

timing storage means is in said predetermined range, said
5 correlation evaluation means increases a game score, and the
number of points to be added thereto is differed based on a
difference between the data to be evaluated.

12. A game machine for executing a predetermined game
in response to a player's operation, comprising:

display means for displaying a game screen;

operation switches operated by the player;

5 communications means for performing data
communications among other game machines;

start timing synchronization means for establishing
start-timing synchronization with said other game machines in the
game by communications via said communications means;

10 process means for carrying out a predetermined process,
in response when the game is synchronously started, corresponding
to the player's operation of said operation switches;

first timing storage means for storing data relating
to a timing at which said predetermined process is carried out;

15 second timing storage means for acquiring and storing
the data which is stored in said first timing storage means of
said other game machines through communications via said
communications means; and

correlation evaluation means for evaluating
20 correlation in terms of game process timing with said other game

machines based on the data stored in said first timing storage means and said second timing storage means.

13. A game system structured by a plurality of a game machine for executing a predetermined game in response to a player's operation, and a data processing device for evaluating operational correlation among the plurality of the game machines,

5 said game machine comprising:

 display means for displaying a game screen;

 operation switches operated by the player;

 communications means for performing data
10 communications between other game machines and said data processing device;

 start timing synchronization means for establishing
start-timing synchronization with said other game machines in the
game by communications via said communications means;

 prompt information storage means for storing
15 operation timing data defining an operation timing of said operation switches to be operated by the player;

 display control means for having, in response when
the game is synchronously started, said display means displayed
information about the operation timings of said operation
20 switches to be operated by the player based on said operation timing data;

 operation timing storage means for storing data

relating to the operation timings of said operation switches operated by the player responding to the information displayed

25 on said display means; and

operation timing data transmission means for transmitting the data of said operation timing storage means to said data processing device through communications via said communications means, and

30 said data processing device comprising:

timing data storage means for receiving and storing the data, one by one, transmitted from said operation timing data transmission means through communications via said communications means; and

35 correlation evaluation means for evaluating correlation among the game machines in terms of game operation based on the data stored in said timing data storage means.

14. A program for controlling a game executed in a game machine, comprising the steps of:

establishing start-timing synchronization in the game through data communications performed among other game machines;

5 reading operation timing data defining an operation timing of operation switches to be operated by a player;

in response when the game is synchronously started, having display means of the game machine displayed information about the operation timings of said operation switches to be

10 operated by the player based on said operation timing data;
storing its own data relating to the operation timings
of said operation switches operated by the player in response to
the information displayed on said display means;
acquiring, through communications, other data relating
15 to the operation timings of said operation switches operated by
the player in said other game machines; and
evaluating correlation among said other game machines
in terms of game operation based on said its own data and said
other data.

15. A program of a music game executed in a game machine,
comprising the steps of:

generating a predetermined sound in response to a
player's operation of operation switches;

5 selecting one part out of a plurality of those relating
to music play;

establishing start-timing synchronization in the game
through data communications performed among other game machines;

reading operation timing data defining a plurality of
10 the operation timings of the operation switches to be operated
by the player at least for said selected part;

in response when the game is synchronously started,
having display means of the game machine displayed information
about the operation timings of said operation switches to be

15 operated by the player at least for said selected part out of the
information based on said operation timing data;

 setting at least one of the plurality of operation
timings based on said operation timing data as an evaluation
timing;

20 storing its own data relating to the operation timings
corresponding to said evaluation timing out of the operation
timings of said operation switches operated by the player in
response to the information displayed on said display means;

 acquiring, through communications, other data relating
25 to the operation timings of said operation switches operated by
the player in said other game machines; and

 evaluating correlation among said other game machines
in terms of game operation based on said its own data and said
other data.

16. The program according to claim 14, further
comprising the step of evaluating whether the timing based on said
its own data in storage is in a predetermined range from the timing
based on said operation timing data.

17. The program according to claim 14, wherein
said evaluating step evaluates whether both the timing
based on said its own data and the timing based on said other data
are in a predetermined range.

18. The program according to claim 17, wherein
said evaluating step evaluates, by using, as a
criterial timing, the timing based on either said its own data
or said other data whichever being the operation timing closest
5 to the operation timing defined by said operation timing data at
a predetermined timing, from the criterial timing based on one
of the data, whether the timing based on the other data is in the
predetermined range.

19. The program according to claim 14, wherein
said evaluating step evaluates whether the timing based
on either said its own data or said other data is in a predetermined
range from the timing based on said operation timing data at a
5 predetermined timing, and whether both the timing based on one
of the data and the timing based on the other data are in the
predetermined range.

20. The program according to claim 14, wherein
said operation timing data defines a plurality of the
operation timings of said operation switches to be operated by
the player,

5 the step is further provided for setting at least one
of the plurality of the operation timings based on said operation
timing data as an evaluation timing, and

said storing step stores its own data relating to the

operation timing corresponding to said evaluation timing.

21. The program according to claim 14, wherein
said communications is used for infrared
communications,

5 said storing step stores its own data relating to the
operation timings of said operation switches operated by the
player during a predetermined segment of the game,

10 said acquiring step acquires, for each of the
predetermined segment of the game, other data relating to the
operation timings of said operation switches operated by the
player in said other game machines, and

said evaluating step evaluates, for each of the
predetermined segment of the game, correlation among said other
game machines in terms of game operation based on said its own
data and said other data.

22. The program according to claim 17, wherein
said evaluating step differs the number of points to
be added depending on a difference between the timing based on
said its own data and the timing based on said other data.

23. The program according to claim 19, wherein
said evaluating step differs the number of points to
be added depending on both a difference between the timing based

on said one of data and the timing based on said operation timing
5 data, and a difference between the timing based on said one of
data and the timing based on said other data.

24. the program according to claim 14, wherein
when evaluating that said its own data and/or said other
data is in said predetermined range, said evaluating step
increases a game score, and the number of points to be added thereto
5 is differed based on a difference between data to be evaluated.

25. A program for controlling a game executed in a game
machine, comprising the steps of:

establishing start-timing synchronization in the game
through data communications performed among other game machines;

5 carrying out a predetermined process corresponding to
a player's operation on said operation switches in response when
the game is synchronously started;

storing its own data relating to a timing at which said
predetermined process is carried out;

10 acquiring other data relating to the timing at which
the predetermined process is carried out corresponding to the
player's operation on said operation switches in said other game
machines through communications, and

evaluating correlation with said other game machines
15 in terms of game process timing based on said its own data and

said other data.

26. A game machine used in a game system structured by a plurality of the game machines for executing a predetermined game in response to a player's operation, and a data processing device for evaluating operational correlation among the plurality of the game machines, comprising:

display means for displaying a game screen;

operation switches operated by the player;

communications means for performing data communications between other game machines and said data processing device structuring said game system;

start timing synchronization means for establishing start-timing synchronization with said other game machines in the game by communications via said communications means;

prompt information storage means for storing operation timing data defining an operation timing of said operation switches to be operated by the player;

display control means for having, in response when the game is synchronously started, said display means displayed information about the operation timings of said operation switches to be operated by the player based on said operation timing data;

operation timing storage means for storing data relating to the operation timings of said operation switches

operated by the player responding to the information displayed
on said display means; and

operation timing data transmission means for
transmitting the data of said operation timing storage means to
5 said data processing device through communications via said
communications means.

20050714-043002